

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY^ PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) A preliminary exercise done by the Planning Commission had estimated an investment of about US \$ 350 billion during 2007-12 in infrastructure; comprising of irrigation, electricity, wind energy, gas, water supply, ports, airports, railways, communication, roads and storage. These estimates will, however, be reassessed in the light of the Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

(b) and (c) All possible avenues including use of a small part of our foreign exchange reserves without the risk of monetary expansion, mobilization of funds from abroad and initiating public private partnerships in infrastructure are being explored for development and financing of infrastructure.

Funds allocated to Bihar

3123. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of funds allocated to Bihar during the last three years under various schemes;
- (b) whether Government are satisfied with the utilization of these funds by the State Government; and
- (c) if not, the steps Government are taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING . (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) The approved outlays for the Annual Plans of Bihar and expenditure for the last three years are as follows:

Year	Approved Outlay	Expenditure	% Expend. to Allocation	(Rs. in crore)
2004-05	4,000.00	5,196.47	80	
2005-06	5,329.65	4,465.50	64	
2006-07	8,250.00	8,670.87*	105	

* Revised Outlay

(b) The State Government have taken a number of initiatives in terms of administrative reforms, decentralization and simplification of procedure, delegation of powers, etc. resulting in increasing levels of expenditure during the period 2004-05 to 2006-07.

(c) Does not arise.

Definition of poverty line

†3124. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA; Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the definition of poverty line;
- (b) the population living below the poverty line in the year 2001 and the number of people living below the poverty line in the year 2006;
- (c) the facilities being provided to the people living below the poverty line by the Central Government and the State Government; and
- (d) the steps being taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) The Planning Commission uses a poverty line based on per capita consumption expenditure as the criterion to determine the persons living below the poverty line. The per capita consumption norm has been fixed at Rs. 49.09 per month in rural areas and Rs. 56.64 per month in urban areas at 1973-74 prices at national level corresponding to a basket of goods and services anchored on a norm of per capita daily calorie requirement of 2400 kcal in the rural areas and 2100 kcal in the urban areas. The state-specific poverty lines are derived from the national level poverty lines, using state-specific price indices and inter-state price differentials. The national poverty line at 2004-05 prices is Rs. 356.30 per month in the rural areas and Rs. 538.60 per capita per month in the urban areas.

(b) The Planning Commission estimates the incidence of poverty at national and state level from the large sample survey On household consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years following the methodology

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.